

Trainer



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Ulli Vilsmaier is an internationally experienced expert in inter- and transdisciplinary research. She is specialized in designing, accompanying, and implementing inter- and transdisciplinary research and develops methods for interface design and boundary work. She has large experiences with research development worldwide and supervises PhD and Master thesis of social and cultural scientists, artist and designers in Sustainability Science, Geography, Education and the Humanities.

## Navigating Inter- and Transdisciplinary Research Fields

### Objective

This online workshop supports PhD candidates and postdocs working in inter- or transdisciplinary research fields in analyzing their own researcher positionality. The participants will explore the topography of their research field to better understand and navigate the complexity of boundary-crossing research.

### Description

- Where am I located in the landscape of knowledge and towards my research subject?
- Who and what shapes my thinking and acting in my research field?
- On which theoretical backgrounds or stocks of knowledge does my research rely on and how do these resources relate to each other?
- Are there tensions or contradictions inherent to my research?
- How do different methodologies or methods fit together?

These are questions often raised when researching between disciplines, in interdisciplinary knowledge fields, when disciplinary boundaries are transcended, or in trans-sector collaboration. Researchers working inter- or transdisciplinarily are often challenged to delimit their research field, to locate themselves in the landscape of knowledge, understand their role and relationship with the subject of research, to integrate knowledge or mix methods and to keep track and orientation in an often messy and changing research environment. This workshop provides you with the necessary conceptual vocabulary to precisely describe your inter- or transdisciplinary research endeavour. It will introduce you to the concepts of researcher positionality and research topography. You will be guided in analyzing your own positionality and exploring the topography of your own research field. You will learn to characterize the type of inter- and transdisciplinary research you pursue and to systematize different stocks of knowledge, theories and methods, as well as roles, interests and constellations of involved persons that constitute your research field.

### Methodology

The online workshop combines short presentations with individual tasks and group work. The results will be presented and discussed with all participants.

### Conditions

If you are involved in an *on-going* inter- or transdisciplinary research project and willing to work on a set of questions in preparation to the workshop, you are very welcome to attend this course!

Basic knowledge on inter- and transdisciplinarity or participation in the course *Introductory workshop to Inter- and Transdisciplinarity* (2021 or 2022) is beneficial. Alternatively, it is recommended that you explore introductory texts that provide you with a basic orientation in inter- and transdisciplinarity in advance.

### Organizational Information

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| Language / Format | English / Online   |
| Target group      | Doctoral Candidates at all stages and Postdocs conducting inter- or transdisciplinary research from all faculties  |
| Date              | Tuesday, 16 May 2023, 9:00 – 13:00.<br>Please schedule 3 additional hours of work on the individual research project in the afternoon.<br>Wednesday, 17 May 2023, 9:00 – 13:00 |
| Registration      | <b>For registration click here</b>   |